Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 STRE-00 IO-13 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 CTME-00 AID-05 SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00 ICA-11 SP-02 SOE-02 OMB-01 DOE-15 OIC-02 /168 W

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P 211549Z APR 78 FM USMISSION GENEVA TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8716 INFO AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

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USMTN

ACTION STR

STR PASS CODEL

SINGAPORE FOR GRAEF

EO 11652: N/A TAGS: MTN, ETRD

SUBJECT: MTN: TROPICAL PRODUCTS NEGOTIATIONS

1. AT THE REQUEST OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, THE GATT SECRETARIAT HAS ISSUED A REVISION OF ITS' EARLIER COMPILATION OF OFFERS BY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN RESPONSE TO REQUESTS BY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WITHIN THE TROPICAL PRODUCTS GROUP. (MTN/TP 2/REV COPY BEING HAND CARRIED TO STR-LANDE BY STR-DONALD ABELSON.) THE 454 PAGE COMPILATION NOW ALSO INCLUDES THE INITIAL OFFERS MADE BY DEVELOPED COUNTRIES IN GROUPS AGRICULTURE, NON TARIFF MEASURES AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TARIFFS.

2. CONCERNING THE US TROPICAL PRODUCTS OFFER, THE PUBLICATION CONTAINS THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT "--- INCLUDES THE UNITED STATES OFFER AT THAT TIME, THE IMPLEMENTATION OF WHICH IT IS UNDERSTOOD CONTINUES TO BE SUBJECT TO NEGOTIATIONS WITH INTERESTED DEVELOPING COUNTRIES."

3. COMMENT: COMPILATION WILL PRESUMABLY BE SENT BY LDC DELEGATION TO CAPITALS FOR STUDY AND EVALUATION. WHILE MANY LDC REQUESTS INITIALLY MADE IN THE TROPICAL PRODUCTS GROUP HAVE BEEN RESPONDED TO BY OFFERS MADE IN OTHER GROUPS, THE COMPILATION DOES PERMIT RAPID INDENTIFICATION OF THOSE DC SENSITIVE AREAS IN WHICH OFFERS HAVE NOT BEEN MADE. GATT SECRETARIAT UNDERSTANDS THAT LDC'S HAVE ASKED TP GROUP CHAIRMAN, AMBASSADOR MARTINEZ OF ARGENTINA, TO SEE WHETHER HE COULD GET OTHERS TO AGREE TO CONVENE FORMAL TP GROUP MEETING. WE WILL, OF COURSE, DO WHAT WE CAN TO DEFLECT THIS MOVE INTO AN INFORMAL OR EXPANDED 7 PLUS 7 MEETING.

4. DRAFTED BY KNEPPER. MCDONALD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: TROPICAL PRODUCTS, NEGOTIATIONS, TRADE AGREEMENTS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 21 apr 1978 Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978GENEVA06083
Document Source: CORE

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Expiration: Film Number: D780171-0339 Format: TEL

From: GENEVA USMTN Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780432/aaaabask.tel

Line Count: 77 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f721efa9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION STR

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a

Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Reference: n/a Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags:

Review Date: 05 may 2005 Review Event: Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:**

Review Release Date: N/A Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 2895742 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: MTN: TROPICAL PRODUCTS NEGOTIATIONS

TAGS: ETRD, MTN To: STATE

Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f721efa9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014